



# THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## EXECUTIVE ORDER

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BY THE GOVERNOR:

**WHEREAS:** Clinch County Sheriff Winston Peterson was indicted on five counts related to alleged extortion, obstruction of justice, perjury, and forced labor; and

**WHEREAS:** Under the provisions of O.C.G.A. § 15-16-26(e), the Governor has determined that an investigation of Sheriff Peterson should be made as a result of alleged misconduct in office; and

**WHEREAS:** O.C.G.A. § 45-5-6 provides that the Governor shall appoint two sheriffs who are members of the Georgia Sheriffs' Association to conduct the investigation along with the Attorney General.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME AS GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA, IT IS HEREBY**

**ORDERED:** That Attorney General Thurbert Baker; Richard Foskey Sheriff of Bacon County; and Wiley Griffin, Sheriff of Decatur County, are hereby appointed as the committee to conduct an investigation and to make a report of their investigation to me within 30 days as provided in O.C.G.A. § 45-5-6, with a recommendation as to whether Winston Peterson should be suspended from office as prescribed by O.C.G.A. § 45-5-6.

Any inconsistent prior order is hereby rescinded.

This 7<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2007.

  
GOVERNOR